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(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: USING CONFIGURATION IDENTIFIERS FOR COMMUNICATING CONFIGURATION DESCRIPTIONS
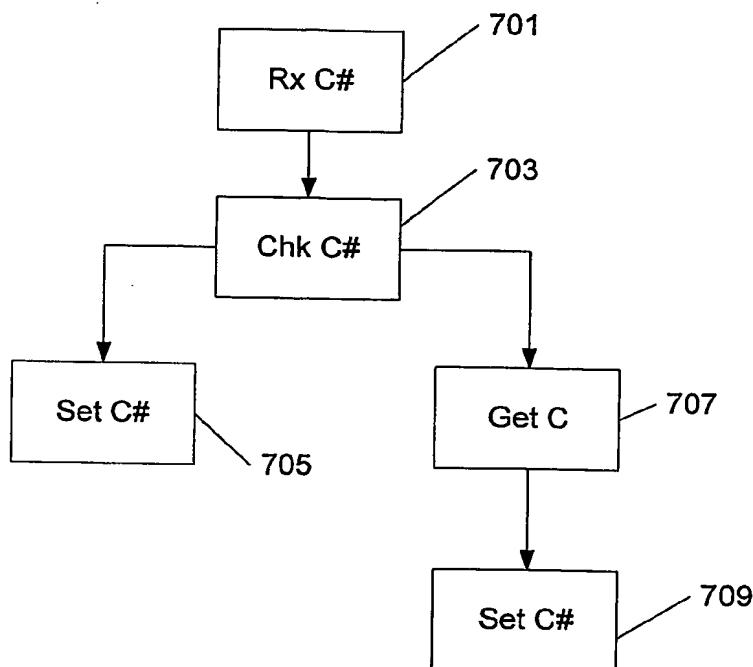
(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method, for a first communication device, of maintaining an up-to-date configuration description of a second communication device, said first device comprises a storage medium and is adapted for storing on said storage medium configuration descriptions being uniquely identified by a configuration identifier, the method comprises the steps of:- receiving from the second device information comprising a configuration identifier uniquely identifying the configuration of the second device,- checking whether the configuration description identified by the received configuration identifier is already stored on the storage medium,- if said configuration description is already stored on the storage medium, setting the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier as the active configuration description of the second device,- if said configuration description identified by the configuration identifier is not stored on the storage medium, requesting and receiving the configuration description from said second device, storing said configuration description together with said configuration identifier on said storage medium and setting the configuration corresponding to the received configuration identifier as the active configuration description of the second device. The invention minimizes network load and can especially be advantageously used in UPnP networks.

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